

**No. R-204. House concurrent resolution honoring Dave Gram for 30 years of journalism excellence.**

(H.C.R.150)

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, Dave Gram, now the dean of State House reporters, graduated from his home state University of Massachusetts with a journalism degree, and

Whereas, when he applied for a position at the Associated Press (AP), staff openings were available in Montpelier and New Orleans, but despite his love of jazz, Dave Gram decided to pursue the job closer to home, and

Whereas, on concluding lunch with AP Montpelier reporters Chris Graff and Jon Kellogg, Dave Gram was told to take a short walk and, on his return, was surprised to learn he had seen the entire city and delighted to accept an employment offer, and

Whereas, his first day of reporting was June 10, 1985, and

Whereas, Dave Gram and his wife, Cathy, were married on October 1, 1986, at St. Augustine's in Montpelier, and

Whereas, an early highlight of Dave Gram's long reporting career was a 1987 series focusing on the challenges African-Americans confronted living in one of the whitest states in the Union, prompting in part the establishment of the Vermont Human Rights Commission, and

Whereas, his 1990 series, *School As Parent*, detailed new pressures on Vermont schools to respond to social and family changes, and

Whereas, inevitably, in meeting his journalistic obligations, Dave Gram managed from time to time to anger Vermont's governors, regardless of their political party, and

Whereas, Dave Gram fondly recalls touring downtown Montpelier in a canoe with Kim Bittermann and Warren Kitzmiller after the March flood of 1992, and

Whereas, a 1995 Kiplinger Fellowship enabled Dave Gram to earn a master's degree in journalism at Ohio State University, and

Whereas, during Tropical Storm Irene in 2011, Dave Gram remained in the AP bureau for a solo 14-hour shift, notwithstanding the increasingly threatening waters of the Winooski River, and

Whereas, Dave Gram has been recognized for his Tropical Storm Irene coverage and for his outstanding State government reporting, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Dave Gram for 30 years of journalism excellence, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Dave Gram.